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Message Text

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FOR US DEL-CSCE

FOLLOWING SENT NATO, INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS, EC BRUSSELS, AUGUST 23, FROM SECSTATE RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE UNCLAS STATE 167866

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, HX, NATO
SUBJECT: ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETING JULY 26

REF: NATO 3558

1. FOLLOWING IS BRIEF ECONOMIC REPORT REQUESTED REFTEL, PARA 4. (SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PAPER, REQUESTED REFTEL, PARA 2, IS INCLUDED IN SEPTEL.)

2. BEGIN TEXT: EMBODIED IN THE TRADE PROTOCOLS SIGNED BY SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY SHULTZ, AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE PATOLICHEV ON JUNE 22, 1973, WERE THREE VEHICLES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF US-SOVIET COMMERCIAL RELATIONS: A) DISCUSSIONS WITH A VIEW TOWARD ESTABLISHING A US-USSR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, B) PROVISION OF NEW US COMMERCIAL FACILITIES IN MOSCOW, AND C) CONTINUED SOVIET CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS BY US BUSINESSES FOR ACCREDITATION TO THE SOVIET UNION.
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3. SUBSEQUENTLY, AT A MEETING CALLED BY THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE WITH INTERESTED US FIRMS, THE DESIRABILITY OF ESTABLISHING A US-USSR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WAS CONFIRMED AND SUCH AN ORGANIZATION WAS FORMED IN LATE JULY, WITH MR. DON KENDALL OF PEPSICO AS PRESIDENT. THE FINAL FORM AND FUNCTIONS OF THE GROUP (WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE RENAMED A "TRADE COUNCIL") ARE YET TO BE DETERMINED; DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIETS ON THE MODALITIES OF POSSIBLE JOINT FACILITIES ARE TO TAKE PLACE IN A FEW WEEKS.

4. WE FORESEE THAT ITS ACTIVITIES WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THOSE OF EXISTING JOINT CHAMBERS, SUCH AS FRENCH AND FINNISH, AND WOULD INCLUDE INFORMATIONAL SERVICES, AD HOC COMMITTEES ON PROBLEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST, AND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FUNCTIONS FOR FIRMS ENGAGED IN US-SOVIET TRADE.

5. ALTHOUGH THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAD ALREADY SIGNED A LEASE ON PROPERTY FOR THE US COMMERCIAL OFFICE IN MOSCOW AFTER THAT PROPERTY HAD BEEN OFFERED DURING THE BREZHNEV VISIT, IT LATER WITHDREW FROM THE CONTRACT. HOWEVER, A NEW LEASE WAS SIGNED ON AUGUST 9 FOR AN ALTERNATIVE SITE QUITE CLOSE TO THE US EMBASSY. BECAUSE OF NECESSARY RENNOVATION, THE COMMERCIAL OFFICE PROBABLY WILL NOT BE FULLY OPERATIONAL UNTIL THE SPRING OF 1974; BUT WE HOPE THAT IT CAN BE DEDICATED BY SECRETARY SHULTZ WHILE HE IS IN MOSCOW IN OCTOBER 1973. THE RECIPROCAL CHARACTER OF THE PROTOCOLS SIGNED IN JUNE PROVIDES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A SOVIET TRADE REPRESENTATION IN WASHINGTON, THE PLANS FOR WHICH THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAS NOT SUBMITTED TO THE US.

6. THE PROTOCOLS ALSO NAMED TEN US COMPANIES WHICH HAD RECEIVED ACCREDITATION IN THE USSR SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE TRADE AGREEMENT OF OCTOBER 1972. ADDING PAN AMERICAN AND AMERICAN EXPRESS TO THAT LIST BRINGS ITS TOTAL TO TWELVE, FIVE OF WHICH ACTUALLY HAD FUNCTIONING MOSCOW OFFICES AS OF THE END OF JULY 1973. MOREOVER, AT LEAST THREE OTHER US COMPANIES ARE EXPECTING APPROVAL OF THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR ACCREDITATION IN THE NEAR FUTURE.
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END TEXT. ROGERS UNQUOTE. RUSH

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